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SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, DECEMBER 4, 1913.

THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES.

The salient points of Pres. Wilson's message to congress are these:
Presidential primaries.

The wisdom of watchfully waiting the development of events in Mexico, International arbitration.

Banking and currency reform.
Reinforcement of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Full territorial government for Alaska.

Primary rights of social justice.

Special provisions for farm credits.
The president adhered to his practice of personally delivering his message to congress. His utterances were given the emphasis of personal contact. The ceremony was no cold formality which might or might not engage the attendance and attention of members. The presence of the president brought every member of the two houses to the chamber and enlisted his interest.

It was impressed upon congress that the president is personally as well as officially interested in the enactment of the legislation he recommends. He recognized the relationship and the mutual responsibility that exist between the executive and legislative branches of government and in a way forced this recognition upon congress.

Some revelations were made by the president's message. The principle of the primary was enunciated in the recommendation for popular nominations for president and vice-president. The principle which now prevails in most states relative to the nomination of state, county and municipal candidates and has been extended to United States senators should be applied, the president thinks, to the selection of candidates for the highest elective positions, thus placing them actually as well as nominally within the gift of the people.

The president also went a step further. He would not only abolish the national nominating conventions, but he would establish party platform conventions. The president believes the platforms of the parties should be formulated by those who if in office or elected to office will be responsible to the people for the fulfillment of pledges, the nominees for congress, nominees for vacant seats in the senate, senators whose terms have not expired, the national committees and the candidates for the presidency.

This is a radical departure from present custom. It is likely to meet with the objection that the people would be deprived of the right to declare the principles and policies on which their candidates shall stand for election, but the argument would be specious. It is plausible but faulty. The power now given to delegates who assume no responsibility of execution would be transmitted to delegates who must assume the burden of redeeming all pledges made.

Another interesting development was the revelation of the president's attitude toward the Sherman anti-trust law. Considerable speculation has been indulged in as to whether the law would receive Pres. Wilson's endorsement. The president made it emphatic. He not only declared that the Sherman law should stand, but designated it as a great act. He urged, however, that the debatable ground by which the law is surrounded should be reduced to the minimum by legislation which will not only clarify it but also make it fairer to all concerned.

The other subjects treated in the message were familiar in line with the policy of administration. They involved the reform of the currency, the Mexican policy and progressive legislation suggested by the needs of the nation. They were clearly and impressively placed before congress and established a clear understanding between the executive and legislative departments of the government and the people.

WORK OF THE SPUGS.

It is a hard but not a hopeless fight the "Society for Prevention of Useless Giving" is making against the annual Christmas waste of money that should be devoted to some more worthy cause than the exchange of commercialized remembrances.

The members of this society are known as Spugs because the initials of the principal words in the title of the organization spell spug. No better reason could be given, no more sufficient reason is needed. Somehow the word has a punch that is already having its effect in driving home the idea embraced in the object of the society. When a man or woman is a spug it means something. It has a militant significance.

So far the organization is confined to the larger cities, but it is spreading. Like a contagion it is breaking out sporadically here and there and widening its zone of influence. The idea has a strong appealing power. It is not difficult to convince some people that indiscriminate giving at Christmas or any other time is wasteful and that wastefulness is wickedness.

Indiscriminate giving is contrary to

the spirit of Christmas. Gifts at this or any other time should be highly specialized and should carry a significance more worthy of consideration than a commercialized exchange, which is nothing more than barter and trade. A present should be the expression of a tender or noble sentiment rather than the invisible but obvious demand to "please exchange."

Present giving is properly a matter of sentiment. It has no proper relation to the sordid affairs of life. When a gift is made it should be an expression of the highest motives, not a symbol of sordidness.

VINDICATION OF A POLICY.

Pres. Wilson's watchfully waiting policy toward Mexico, while friendly in form and purpose, has in reality partaken of the nature of a militant siege, and is proving as effective against the Huerta government as thought the guns of the American army frowned upon the Mexican capital.

This friendly siege has been effective in preventing Huerta from obtaining money, arms, ammunition and food with which to carry on the war against the disaffected. Foreign bankers have been slow to advance funds on the doubtful security Huerta could offer, the bonds of a government founded in assassination and failing to receive the recognition of the United States, and foreign manufacturers of arms and provisions have been equally slow to extend credit.

The embargo placed by the president on the shipment of the sinews of war from the United States has combined with the failure of credit in foreign quarters to reduce the Huertistas to a state of inefficiency and the rapid approach of the end was heralded in yesterday's dispatches. The retirement of the federal forces from Chihuahua marks the City of Mexico as the forlorn hope. That the federalists can maintain themselves in the Mexican capital without assistance is improbable.

The inevitable result, as far as present indications go, is a vindication of Pres. Wilson's policy, the keynote of which is "watchfully waiting." The president is succeeding not only in accomplishing his purpose but in maintaining a friendly attitude toward the people of Mexico and in retaining the confidence and co-operation of interested foreign powers.

Foreign advices indicate a lingering desire on the part of France to recover Alsace and Lorraine, and that the French are awaiting an opening with ill concealed impatience. Another Franco-German war would come near putting The Hague out of business.

This is the opportune time to give aid and encouragement to the children's dispensary. The society is now planning its work for the winter, and there is much to be done. In the true Christmas spirit of giving contribute something toward giving needy babies a chance to get a good start in life.

You will remember we predicted that a season without league baseball would strengthen the demand for it. Which is another form of saying "We told you so." The word from baseball circles is that the fans are growing crazy.

Hopes entertained by enemies of the Sherman anti-trust law that the president would not give it his approval have been dashed by his hearty endorsement of it, which though qualified will serve to strengthen rather than destroy it.

We notice that a Chicago newspaper claims to have originated the presidential primary plan advocated by Pres. Wilson. And it may be true, but it wouldn't have amounted to much as a plan if the president had not urged its adoption.

At this time when Christmas is shedding its Christmas spirit over the land thousands of homeless and penniless fugitives are fleeing for their lives from Mexico. The horrors of the situation in that distracted country cannot be conceived, much less described.

Suffragist leaders who complain that Pres. Wilson gave their cause no attention in his message should be patient. This is the president's busy day and there are a number of peremptory things ahead of the suffrage question.

Very properly the credit for the Army victory over the Navy is not given to Yost. The Army got its pointers from Notre Dame.

May it be presumed that with every laughing day the candle of the self-seeking politician burns lower in its socket?

The clash of suffrage is one of the new disturbers added to our repertoire of noises.

Without appearing to dictate we suggest that you do your Christmas shopping while the shopping is good.

STATESMEN, REAL AND NEAR.

BY FRED C. KELLY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Rep. Ben Johnson of Kentucky is a man who will do anything for one or to one, whichever way the exigencies of the case seem to demand. He is a man kindly disposed, obliging and with a disposition to take off his coat and give it to the first stranger who seems to need it. Moreover he is reasonably forgiving of those who trespass against him. But once in a long time he meets up with somebody that he can't forgive for a cent.

Some years ago Johnson was a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor of his state and the nomination that year was equivalent to an election. He would have landed except for one man who started some campaign lies about him and in the other ways "dote him dirt."

Time ran along and a few months ago this same man who treated Johnson so unkindly in that race for the governorship greatly desired a certain job. It was a federal appointive job and Johnson's influence was needed before he could get it.

He sought to make peace with Johnson, but the latter did not at once become sociable or clubby—not at all. Then the man sent emissaries to Johnson with the tidings that he realized he had once served Johnson a mean trick and that he was mighty sorry he had behaved in such a shameful manner.

"Are you quite sure the man really is sorry?" inquired Johnson, with a benign smile that seemed to bode no ill.

"Oh, yes indeed," replied the man's emissary. "He is thoroughly sorry. He wants to meet you and apologize."

"You think there's no bluff about it—and he's positively sorry?" persisted Johnson, talking still more amiably.

"No question about it," the envoy assured him.

"Then," said Johnson, "I wish you would just say to the man that he is not half as sorry as I intend that he will be later on."

Little things still keep right on leading to bigger things.

When Byron R. Newton, assistant secretary of the treasury, was special writer on the New York Herald years ago, he was amused every once in a while by seeing a stray paragraph in one of the papers about an unknown lawyer named McAdoo who proposed to build a tunnel under the Hudson river. The thing started nowhere and ended in Hoboken, besides being a proposition that had already been tried and abandoned as an engineering impossibility.

Newton thought of the poor, simple-minded lawyer who dreamed such absurdities he chuckled to himself, and at last he determined to hunt the man up "just" as the afterward expressed it, "to see what the poor, blundered fool looked like."

After hunting for an hour or two he finally located McAdoo tucked away in a dreary little office in Wall st.

And Newton sat there in the office talking to McAdoo for just exactly seven hours and a half. McAdoo interested him and impressed him. He felt sorry for McAdoo as an unfortunate, misguided dreamer who had hit upon a thing that couldn't be done, yet he saw that if the thing only could be done, McAdoo would be the man to do it.

Newton went to his office and wrote a Sunday page about McAdoo and his dream. That story marked the beginning of McAdoo and his tunnel project being taken more seriously. Until then the only attention paid to him had been as a subject for amusement or pity.

From that time on McAdoo has kept coming more and more into prominence and Newton has always been associated with him behind the scenes. Several times Newton got leave of absence from his paper for a few months while he went to "help" aid McAdoo. All through the various steps incident to the tunnel proposition Newton wrote publicity stuff, advised, abetted, and made himself generally useful. When McAdoo got into the managerial end of the Wilson campaign, one of the first things he did was to send for "By" Newton.

And when McAdoo stepped into the cabinet, nothing would do but "By" must come along.

If permitted just to follow his own conversational course, Vice-Pres. Marshall will nearly always ver the talk around to the subject of the climate and scenery afforded by the state of Arizona, and allow the talk to remain right there. Arizona is vice-president's favorite topic for off-hand chat. Just now this tendency of his is especially marked. From the fact that he has recently been in Arizona. When he gets away from the subject of Arizona, Marshall usually lands at once in baseball.

Kin Hubbard, the comic paragrapher, went out once for a week or two with a theatrical troupe. The newspaper in one little town where they appeared roasted the show without reserve or mercy. Kin saw a copy of the paper whereupon he wrote a post card to the editor saying:

"I don't know whether I am a subscriber to your paper or not. If I am, stop it."
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* LITTLE OLD NEW YORK *

* BY NORMAN. *

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The hand of fate seems sometimes to be the hand of retribution.

Two big automobiles came together with a crash on a road in the northern suburbs of New York a few days ago. In one of them two men and two women were killed instantly. In the other two men and a woman were injured.

Both the men who were killed were married. The wife of one of them had gone to a western city a few days before. The news of the fate of the other man was borne to his wife and children in their home.

One of the women killed was married and had only a few weeks before effected a reconciliation with her husband, from whom she had been separated for some time. The other was a divorced woman. Both the men who were injured were married. The woman with them was not the wife of either.

Anybody who wants to see American chivalry—to remain firm in his con-

THE MELTING POT

COME! TAKE POTLUCK WITH US.

PSYCHOLOGICALLY the president's omission of suffrage from his message was unfortunate, but it illustrates a phase of Mr. Wilson's character which has become pronounced. The reference is to his courage.

To openly defy a whole suffrage convention was almost like taking his life in his hands, but the president seemed reckless of consequences. Perhaps he enjoyed giving the women a new topic of conversation.

THE only rich man we do not envy except J. D. R., is the Mexican who is making his way to the American border with five million pesos in his pocket. If the money is in silver his wealth must be a burden to him.

These Rainy Days.
The skies are thick and dark and bluary.The streets are black and soft and smeary.
I hear the passer-by's gay call,
But at every step they slip and sprawl,
And their smiles are far from cheery.
B. E. H.

"If you save a nickel a day," says Mr. Pyle, "you can buy a rug at the end of the year." We are trying to figure how long it would take to buy an automobile and get along without the rug.

WE refuse to worry over the gloomy outlook pictured by Proxy Emeritus Eliot, who foresees "a terrible physical and moral degeneracy within the next 100 years" if we do not find the remedy for our present city life and safety system. Though the doctor and us may not be here to see it we predict the next 100 years will witness the revolution in social life present forces are starting. If current agitation means anything it means a general turning over of present practices and customs.

The Prodigal's Lean Calves.
(Kendallville News-Sun.)

Some of the prodigal sons who dis-

SECOND YEAR OF MARRIED LIFE.

BY MABEL HERBERT URNER.

Warren took from their hanker a pair of gray trousers and frowned at them disapprovingly. "Didn't I tell you to send these to the tailor?"

"Why, I thought you said he'd call for them," answered Helen, who was putting the collar bones in a freshly laundered waist.

"I said nothing of the kind. I distinctly told you yesterday morning to send these trousers and that heavy overcoat to be pressed."

"Yes, I knew you wanted them pressed, but I thought you were to stop on your way and send the man after them."

"Well, he didn't come, did he? And they were hanging there all day; couldn't you see them? And, if you knew I wanted them pressed, why didn't you send them to him?"

"Yes, I knew you wanted them pressed, but I thought you were to stop on your way and send the man after them?"

"Oh, that's it—He asked."

"Oh, that's it—is it? He asked. I didn't want to send them. I thought you'd say so in the beginning, without lying about it and saying you misunderstood?"

"I didn't lie, Warren; that would have been a small thing to lie about, wouldn't it?"
"Well, now I want these trousers sent to the tailor. Do you hear? If Della can't take them, send a messenger boy. I start down town in the morning. I haven't time to stop at any little tailors. Any other woman but you would manage to get her husband's clothes pressed without all this fuss. Now, do you think you can manage to call a messenger boy, or is it that asking too much?"

"Oh, Warren, how can you be so unjust. You know I'll not call a messenger boy. I'll take them myself. I wouldn't have said anything about it, but I thought as the place was right on your way, you wouldn't mind stopping."

viction that there still remains such an institution—would better keep out of the New York subway.

A man who gives his seat to a woman in the subway is accounted a good deal of a freak. This is particularly true of the home-going crowds at the evening rush hour, when it is an uncommon spectacle to see a big, husky, male animal race a tired-looking woman down an aisle for a lone vacant seat, shove her aside in a close finish and plant himself with every outward sign of triumph and satisfaction.

The prize tale of masculine brutality comes from a man who rides daily on the Broadway line in the most crowded hour. As an express was about to pull out of the Brooklyn bridge station a woman got on with a good-sized baby in her arms. She stood on the platform of the crowded car. Inside nine men were lined up in a row in the seats on one side of the aisle, seven on the other.

The woman stood up, holding her baby, to 193d st., when one of the seated ones got off. Two men on the platform tried to get her seat. One asked several of the "gentlemen" inside to get up. The other kicked four or five of them on the shins. None of them was man enough to fight any more than he was man enough to give up his seat.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FREE.

Heller's Furniture store will give a handsome \$20 doll and a dandy Dan Patch Racer, value \$10, to the boy and girl who clip, paste and bring to the store before 6 p. m. Monday, Dec. 22, the most "Heller oak leaves"—"When Heller Says It's Oak It's Oak." Find them in the ads. Old ones or new ones go back as far as you like—get as many as you can. Must be neatly pasted, 10 on a sheet, one side only—that's the only condition. In case of tie, neatness of arrangement will decide. See gifts in our window.

HELLER,
—Adv. 116 S. Michigan St.

Mrs. Harbo's sale of china, fancy work and baskets, every afternoon during December at 632 Allen st. Advertisement

THIS AFTERNOON
AND TONIGHT
your only chance
to see

ELECTRA

the Electric demonstration car.

This car contains every imaginable Electric device for use in the home, store, factory or farm.

Everybody, ladies especially, will benefit by seeing this exhibition of how electricity is applied to every purpose.

Merchants, manufacturers and business men in every capacity should know the advantage derived from the use of electrical appliances for their business.

Take a trip through this Electric Shop, and see the power table with its many attachments, dough mixers, grinders, polishers, stoves, grills, toasters, sterilizers, heating devices, incubators, pumps, vacuum cleaners, sewing and washing machines and hundreds of other practical appliances all operated by electricity, the modern way.

Car is located on Lake Shore tracks, near Studebaker's Administration Bldg., on So. La Fayette Street.

NO CHARGE FOR ADMISSION

Moving pictures and phonograph concert in the evening.

Don't fail to see this highly instructive exhibit. It will be a real treat to every one, old or young.

Today is your only chance as it leaves for other places tomorrow.

Indiana & Michigan
Electric CompanyWHEN HELLER SAYS
IT'S OAK, IT'S OAK